6/5/87 S6430-2

Oklahoma Labor Market Information

Oklahoma Employment Security Commission March 1987 Data

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES -- MARCH
(Unadjusted)

United States	6.9%
Oklahoma	8.5%
Oklahoma City MSA	6.9%
Tulsa MSA	9.2%
Lawton MSA	5.3%
Enid MSA	8.7%

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS IN MANUFACTURING
(Unadjsuted)

United States	40.9
Oklahoma	41.5
Oklahoma City MSA	40.3
Tulsa MSA	40.3

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
.11 Urban Consumers -- 335.9

THE "OKLAHOMA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION" IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF THE OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION.

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JOBLESSNESS DECLINES IN MARCH

Total employment rose to 1,435,400 in March, up 8,700 from February, while 2,700 fewer persons were unemployed. Nevertheless, household employment, based on the Current Population Survey, remained about 29,000 below the March 1986 total. Unemployment was 5,600 greater than the year-earlier period.

These changes in labor force components resulted in a March jobless rate of 8.5 percent, down from February's 8.7 percent, but significantly higher than the March 1986 rate of 8.0 percent.

Agriculture gained 4,400 workers seasonally between February and March, but was 9,900 below a year ago, reflecting the severe long-term problem of surplus farm products. This loss together with weakness in the State's industry payroll employment, as discussed below, combined to adversely affect total employment over the past year.

MONTHLY PAYROLLS RISE, DOWN YEARLY

Nonfarm wage and salary employment, based on place-of-work, increased in Oklahoma from February to March, but continued to lag behind the same month of 1986. The 2,900 job increase between February and March was primarily seasonal, although slightly smaller than normal for this time of year.

Four of the eight major industry divisions recorded greater over-the-month employment. The services industry posted the largest gain, adding 2,200 jobs between February and March. Construction picked up seasonally with 800 additional jobs. Government followed with 700, reflecting small gains in federal, state and local sectors. Finally, on the upside, finance-insurance-real estate increased by 300 jobs.

Compared to March 1986, nonfarm wage and salary employment fell by over 20,000. Over 85 percent of this loss occurred in three industries--manufacturing (-7,400), mining (-5,200), and trade (-4,500). The downturn in Oklahoma's economy also pulled down construction and finance-insurance-real estate.

MANUFACTURING WAGES RISE SLIGHTLY

Average weekly earnings of the 111,200 manufacturing production workers sampled in Oklahoma during March averaged $408.36 per week compared to $404.89 for the comparable week in February. This gain resulted from a rise to $9.84 or seven cents in hourly wage rates and a slight increase in hours worked.

Both durable and nondurable goods components edged higher in the latest month. In the durable goods sector, the largest rise in weekly earnings occurred in fabricated metal products mainly as a result of a much longer workweek. Instrument and related products also had a significant upturn in earnings while minor gains took place in three other durable components. In the nondurable goods sector, petroleum refining workers' weekly paychecks increased the most, followed by those employed in the newspapers and periodicals group.

Four nonmanufacturing industries in the hours and earnings survey had gains in March from February. Most of these gains were small except for construction which benefited from improved weather. Workers in the remaining nonfactory industry, wholesale trade, averaged significantly lower weekly earnings as their hourly wage rate dropped 75 cents.

Year-ago comparisons showed manufacturing slightly below March 1986 earnings due to a 10 cent drop in hourly pay. The durable goods sector in this industry lost ground because of lower hourly wage rates, while nondurable workers gained about two percent as both hourly earnings and hours worked increased over the year. Four of the five nonmanufacturing industries rose from March of 1986, with construction workers' pay up about nine percent. Conversely, wholesale trade workers' wages fell about eight percent from last year.

JOBLESSNESS DOWN MONTHLY

March jobless rates decreased in 57 State counties during March, compared to February. Rates increased in only 16 counties and were unchanged in the remaining four during this same period. Also, the percent unemployed in the Oklahoma City Metropolitan Statistical Area was the same as the month before, but showed a small decline in the Tulsa MSA. As previously mentioned in this issue, the State rate slipped to 8.5 from 8.7 percent between February and March. By contrast, the National jobless rate dropped to 6.9 from 7.2 percent over the month.

Year-ago comparisons presented a much less favorable picture of the job situation in Oklahoma. The State's 8.5 rate was up considerably from the 8.0 percent that was recorded during March 1986. In addition, the two largest metropolitan areas, Oklahoma City and Tulsa, also had greater joblessness than last year as presented in the respective tables in this publication.

Jobless rates had climbed in 40 of the State's counties over the past year, while 33 had lower rates and four were unchanged. Oklahoma still had 28 counties with jobless rates that exceeded 10.0 percent during the latest month.

INSURED UNEMPLOYMENT

During the week ending March 21, 1987, 30,743 individuals filed initial and continuing claims for jobless benefits. This represented a small drop from the February insured jobless total, but was 14.2 percent below the year-earlier period.

Based on industry classification, construction had the largest drop in number of insured claims filed from the previous month, followed by those with job attachment in mining. Reductions in both of these industries were primarily attributed to seasonality.

Compared to March 1986, 45 percent fewer benefit claims were filed by persons previously employed in mining, while those classified in manufacturing dropped by 27 percent. The next sharpest drop occurred in construction where there were 12 percent fewer claims. In spite of the improvement in these three goods-producing industries, jobless claims filed from four service-producing industries increased. Specifically, more claims were filed in insurance-real estate, services and government than the comparable period of 1986.

RESIDENT OKLAHOMA LABOR FORCE
SUMMARY TABLE

ITEM	NUMBER (In Thousands) Mar 1987p	Feb 1987r	Mar 1986r	Percent Change Feb 87 Mar 87	Absolute Change Feb 87 Mar 87	Mar 86 Mar 87
TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	1,568.4	1,562.4	1,591.7	0.4	6.0	-23.3
Unemployment	133.0	135.7	127.4	-2.0	-2.7	5.6
Unemployment Rate	8.5	8.7	8.0	xxx	xxx	xxx
Unemployment Rate (Seas. Adj.)	8.5	8.2	8.0	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total Employment	1,435.4	1,426.7	1,464.3	0.6	8.7	-28.9
Agriculture	35.5	31.1	45.4	14.1	4.4	-9.9
Domestic Service,Self-Employed & Unpaid Family Workers	139.9	139.6	138.1	0.2	0.3	1.8
Idled by Labor Disputes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
WAGE AND SALARY WORKERS, TOTAL	1,124.6	1,121.7	1,144.7	0.3	2.9	-20.1
Manufacturing	158.1	158.8	165.5	-0.4	-0.7	-7.4
Durable Goods	96.9	97.4	104.9	-0.5	-0.5	-8.0
Lumber and Wood Products	2.4	2.5	2.6	-4.0	-0.1	-0.2
Stone,Clay & Glass Products	10.4	10.5	10.7	-1.0	-0.1	-0.3
Primary Metal Industries	4.2	4.2	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.3
Fabricated Metal Products	14.5	14.6	16.0	-0.7	-0.1	-1.5
Fab. Structural Metal Products	7.4	7.3	8.2	1.4	0.1	-0.8
Machinery Exc. Electrical	30.8	30.8	34.6	0.0	0.0	-3.8
Construction & Related Mach	9.3	9.3	11.8	0.0	0.0	-2.5
Oil Field Machinery	5.4	5.4	7.5	0.0	0.0	-2.1
General Industrial Machinery	5.4	5.5	6.0	-1.8	-0.1	-0.6
Electrical and Electronic Equip.	9.0	9.0	9.8	0.0	0.0	-0.8
Transportation Equipment	19.3	19.6	20.7	-1.5	-0.3	-1.4
Motor Vehicle and Equipment	10.4	10.5	11.5	-1.0	-0.1	-1.1
Aircraft and Parts	8.4	8.6	8.6	-2.3	-0.2	-0.2
Instruments & Related Products	2.5	2.5	2.6	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Nondurable Goods	61.2	61.4	60.6	-0.3	-0.2	0.6
Food and Kindred Products	13.8	13.9	13.9	-0.7	-0.1	-0.1
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.4	9.4	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.3
Paper and Allied Products	4.1	4.2	3.3	-2.4	-0.1	0.8
Printing and Publishing	11.1	11.1	11.4	0.0	0.0	-0.3
Newspapers & Periodicals	5.8	5.8	6.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2
Petroleum & Coal Products	7.2	7.3	7.3	-1.4	-0.1	-0.1
Petroleum Refining	6.5	6.6	6.6	-1.5	-0.1	-0.1
Rubber & Misc. Plastic Products	11.3	11.2	11.1	0.9	0.1	0.2
Tires & Inner Tubes	6.4	6.4	6.5	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Mining	52.7	52.7	57.9	0.0	0.0	-5.2
Oil and Gas Extraction	50.4	50.4	55.1	0.0	0.0	-4.7
Construction	38.5	37.7	39.4	2.1	0.8	-0.9
Heavy Construction Contractors	8.7	8.6	9.0	1.2	0.1	-0.3
Transportation & Public Utilities	62.5	62.5	64.5	0.0	0.0	-2.0
Transportation	33.8	33.8	33.6	0.0	0.0	0.2
Railroad Transportation	1.8	1.8	2.0	0.0	0.0	-0.2
Trucking and Warehousing	16.1	16.3	16.6	-1.2	-0.2	-0.5
Pipe Lines, exc. Natural Gas	1.7	1.6	1.8	6.2	0.1	-0.1
Communication & Elec-Gas-San. Ser	28.7	28.7	30.9	0.0	0.0	-2.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	270.6	271.0	275.1	-0.1	-0.4	-4.5
Wholesale Trade	60.2	60.1	62.5	0.2	0.1	-2.3
Retail Trade	210.4	210.9	212.6	-0.2	-0.5	-2.2
General Merchandise Stores	28.4	28.6	28.7	-0.7	-0.2	-0.3
Department Stores	11.1	11.4	11.9	-2.6	-0.3	-0.8
Food Stores	36.3	37.5	37.6	-3.2	-1.2	-1.3
Auto. Dealers & Service Stations	23.6	23.5	24.6	0.4	0.1	-1.0
Apparel and Accessory Stores	14.9	15.0	14.2	-0.7	-0.1	0.7
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	62.0	61.7	62.9	0.5	0.3	-0.9
Banking	20.3	20.3	21.5	0.0	0.0	-1.2
Credit Agencies other than Banks	9.6	9.7	10.1	-1.0	-0.1	-0.5
Insurance Carriers	9.1	9.0	9.1	1.1	0.1	0.0
Services	224.3	222.1	223.7	1.0	2.2	0.6
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	11.7	11.5	12.2	1.7	0.2	-0.5
Personal Services	13.3	13.2	12.6	0.8	0.1	0.7
Motion Pictures	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Health Services	71.5	70.9	70.5	0.8	0.6	1.0
Hospitals	29.3	29.1	28.7	0.7	0.2	0.6
Educational Services	13.0	13.2	13.3	-1.5	-0.2	-0.3
Government, Total	255.9	255.2	255.7	0.3	0.7	0.2
Federal Government	53.2	53.1	53.3	0.2	0.1	-0.1
State and Local Government	202.7	202.1	202.4	0.3	0.6	0.3
State Government	70.2	69.9	71.1	0.4	0.3	-0.9
Local Government	132.5	132.2	131.3	0.2	0.3	1.2

p = preliminary
r = revised

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS
OKLAHOMA INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION WORKERS

INDUSTRY	Production Workers Mar 1987p	Average Weekly Earnings Mar 1987p	Average Weekly Earnings Feb 1987r	Average Weekly Earnings Mar 1986r	Average Weekly Hours Mar 1987p	Average Weekly Hours Feb 1987r	Average Weekly Hours Mar 1986r	Average Hourly Earnings Mar 1987p	Average Hourly Earnings Feb 1987r	Average Hourly Earnings Mar 1986r
MANUFACTURING	111,200	408.36	404.89	409.53	41.5	41.4	41.2	9.84	9.78	9.94
DURABLE GOODS	70,600	430.44	427.14	434.08	42.2	42.0	41.9	10.20	10.17	10.36
STONE,CLAY & GLASS	8,700	454.33	488.54	424.35	42.7	42.8	41.0	10.64	10.48	10.35
PRIMARY METAL IND.	2,900	430.42	421.95	439.90	44.1	43.1	44.3	9.76	9.79	9.93
FABRICATED METAL IND.	10,500	367.34	347.65	360.77	40.5	38.8	39.3	9.07	8.96	9.18
FABRICATED STRUC. METALS	4,900	376.16	348.33	368.77	42.6	39.9	38.9	8.83	8.73	9.48
MACHINERY EXC. ELECTRICAL	20,900	414.04	413.59	444.32	45.7	45.7	45.2	9.06	9.05	9.83
OIL FIELD MACHINERY	3,000	368.08	379.53	431.15	36.3	37.1	41.9	10.14	10.23	10.29
ELEC. & ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT	6,200	427.45	443.88	404.99	39.8	41.1	39.9	10.74	10.80	10.15
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT	15,400	514.02	515.22	527.47	39.0	39.3	39.6	13.18	13.11	13.32
INSTRUMENTS & RELATED PRODUCTS	1,600	470.53	453.00	443.87	44.6	43.6	44.7	10.55	10.39	9.93
NONDURABLE GOODS	40,600	369.44	367.24	361.78	40.2	40.4	39.8	9.19	9.09	9.09
FOOD & KINDRED PRODUCTS	8,300	321.15	322.70	329.22	40.6	41.8	40.1	7.91	7.72	8.21
APPAREL & OTHER TEXTILES	6,800	186.43	188.49	191.07	36.2	36.6	38.6	5.15	5.15	4.95
PAPER & ALLIED PRODUCTS	3,200	398.73	427.80	407.15	39.4	43.3	42.5	10.12	9.88	9.58
PRINTING & PUBLISHING	5,700	379.60	385.42	396.47	40.0	40.4	41.0	9.49	9.54	9.67
NEWSPAPER & PERIODICALS	2,100	388.29	380.60	372.29	39.5	38.6	38.7	9.83	9.86	9.62
PETROLEUM REFINING	4,200	512.93	491.24	493.04	41.1	40.2	38.7	12.48	12.22	12.74
NONMANUFACTURING										
OIL & GAS EXTRACTION	21,800	489.34	488.94	464.67	43.0	43.5	41.6	11.38	11.24	11.17
CONSTRUCTION	30,200	433.09	414.73	397.33	38.6	37.6	35.1	11.22	11.03	11.32
PUBLIC UTILITIES	23,000	527.51	527.10	506.28	42.1	42.0	40.6	12.53	12.55	12.47
WHOLESALE TRADE	46,900	334.46	361.37	363.28	38.4	38.2	38.2	8.71	9.46	9.51
RETAIL TRADE*	121,100	189.42	188.75	185.74	30.7	30.2	30.7	6.17	6.25	6.05

*Excludes eating and drinking establishments. p=preliminary r=revised

NOTE: Averages are for production or nonsupervisory workers only and cover both full and part-time employees. Overtime hours and pay are included and changes in the amount of overtime may affect these data. There are approximately 111,200, production workers in manufacturing. The data are revised to 1986 benchmark level. Above industries have been classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) Manual, 1972.

Source: Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, Research Department.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED*

ITEM	NUMBER			Percent Change	Absolute Change	
	Mar 1987	Feb 1987	Mar 1986	Feb 87 Mar 87	Feb 87 Mar 87	Mar 86 Mar 87
TOTAL BY INDUSTRY**.....	30,743	31,409	35,813	-2.1	-666	-5070
MINING.....	3,100	3,370	5,672	-8.0	-270	-2572
CONSTRUCTION.....	5,799	6,237	6,633	-7.0	-438	-834
MANUFACTURING.....	6,172	6,172	8,544	0.0	0	-2372
TRANSPORTATION & PUB UTIL...	1,148	1,203	1,372	-4.6	-55	-224
TRADE.....	5,442	5,454	5,270	-0.2	-12	172
FINANCE, INS & REAL EST.....	1,136	1,143	953	-0.6	-7	183
SERVICES.....	6,136	5,881	5,783	4.3	255	353
GOVERNMENT & ALL OTHER.....	1,810	1,949	1,586	-7.1	-139	224
TOTAL BY OCCUPATION**.....	30,743	31,409	35,813	-2.1	-666	-5070
PROFESSIONAL & MANAGERIAL...	4,384	4,189	4,268	4.7	195	116
CLERICAL & SALES.....	6,413	6,192	6,229	3.6	221	184
SERVICES.....	2,508	2,432	2,341	3.1	76	167
PROCESSING & AGRICULTURAL...	944	992	1,075	-4.8	-48	-131
MACHINE TRADES.....	2,225	2,298	2,499	-3.2	-73	-274
BENCHWORK.....	2,108	1,989	3,265	6.0	119	-1157
STRUCTURAL WORK.....	6,790	7,170	7,961	-5.3	-380	-1171
OTHER.....	5,371	6,147	8,175	-12.6	-776	-2804
DURATION OF CURRENT UNEMP						
TOTAL.....	30,743	31,409	35,813	-2.1	-666	-5070
UNDER 5 WEEKS.....	10,621	11,486	13,415	-7.5	-865	-2794
5 - 14 WEEKS.....	12,477	12,028	13,915	3.7	449	-1438
15 WEEKS & OVER.....	7,645	7,895	8,483	-3.2	-250	-838
SEX, TOTAL.....	30,743	31,409	35,813	-2.1	-666	-5070
MALE.....	20,238	21,141	25,662	-4.3	-903	-5424
FEMALE.....	10,505	10,268	10,151	2.3	237	354
RACE, TOTAL.....	30,743	31,409	35,813	-2.1	-666	-5070
WHITE.....	26,056	26,689	30,058	-2.4	-633	-4002
NONWHITE.....	4,687	4,720	5,755	-0.7	-33	-1068
AGE, TOTAL.....	30,743	31,409	35,813	-2.1	-666	-5070
UNDER 25.....	3,843	3,909	4,867	-1.7	-66	-1024
25 - 44.....	19,156	19,344	22,381	-1.0	-188	-3225
OVER 45.....	7,744	8,156	8,565	-5.1	-412	-821

* The Insured Unemployed are those unemployed persons who had worked for employers covered by Oklahoma Unemployment Insurance Laws, and who are eligible for unemployment compensation.

** Refers to industry and occupation involvement prior to unemployment.

DATA FOR WEEK ENDING March 21, 1987

LABOR FORCE DATA

MONTH: MARCH 1987

	AREA	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	LABOR FORCE	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAR 87	FEB 87	MAR 86
	U.S.	110,229,000	8,124,000	118,353,000	6.9	7.2	7.5
	OKLAHOMA	1,435,400	133,000	1,568,400	8.5	8.7	8.0
	COUNTIES						
1	ADAIR	6,630	720	7,350	9.8	10.2	9.1
2	ALFALFA	3,150	160	3,310	4.8	5.1	6.2
3	ATOKA	7,370	740	8,110	9.1	9.3	8.4
4	BEAVER	2,980	120	3,100	3.9	3.7	4.7
5	BECKHAM	7,600	1,140	8,740	13.0	13.0	14.8
6	BLAINE	5,800	460	6,260	7.3	7.7	10.6
7	BRYAN	13,580	1,330	14,910	8.9	8.2	7.3
8	CADDO	11,700	1,390	13,090	10.6	11.1	12.2
9	CANADIAN	32,775	2,700	35,475	7.6	6.9	6.5
10	CARTER	19,900	2,275	22,175	10.3	10.2	8.2
11	CHEROKEE	14,790	1,720	16,510	10.4	11.1	10.8
12	CHOCTAW	4,960	1,060	6,020	17.6	18.8	14.9
13	CIMARRON	1,620	80	1,700	4.7	4.5	5.6
14	CLEVELAND	78,325	5,375	83,700	6.4	6.6	5.5
15	COAL	2,380	390	2,770	14.1	15.5	13.0
16	COMANCHE	45,050	2,500	47,550	5.3	5.6	4.9
17	COTTON	2,950	130	3,080	4.2	4.6	4.8
18	CRAIG	6,070	690	6,760	10.2	10.9	10.7
19	CREEK	26,875	3,350	30,225	11.1	12.2	10.3
20	CUSTER	13,620	880	14,500	6.1	6.7	6.9
21	DELAWARE	10,500	1,230	11,730	10.5	11.3	10.0
22	DEWEY	2,490	230	2,720	8.5	8.9	7.8
23	ELLIS	2,970	150	3,120	4.8	5.3	6.1
24	GARFIELD	27,175	2,575	29,750	8.7	8.8	7.3
25	GARVIN	11,340	1,260	12,600	10.0	10.6	9.0
26	GRADY	16,450	1,950	18,400	10.6	10.8	11.1
27	GRANT	3,060	160	3,220	5.0	5.3	4.2
28	GREER	2,680	140	2,820	5.0	6.0	5.2
29	HARMON	1,520	110	1,630	6.7	7.3	9.3
30	HARPER	2,280	120	2,400	5.0	5.1	3.3
31	HASKELL	3,830	700	4,530	15.5	15.9	17.5
32	HUGHES	4,560	930	5,490	16.9	18.8	16.6

LABOR FORCE DATA

MONTH: MARCH 1987

	AREA	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	LABOR FORCE	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAR 87	FEB 87	MAR 86
33	JACKSON	10,760	800	11,560	6.9	6.7	6.8
34	JEFFERSON	3,370	400	3,770	10.6	10.9	10.1
35	JOHNSTON	3,900	320	4,220	7.6	7.3	7.6
36	KAY	24,375	2,000	26,375	7.6	8.0	7.6
37	KINGFISHER	6,410	540	6,950	7.8	8.5	9.1
38	KIOWA	5,240	340	5,580	6.1	5.8	6.8
39	LATIMER	4,290	560	4,850	11.5	12.0	17.4
40	LEFLORE	18,030	1,700	19,730	8.6	8.8	9.2
41	LINCOLN	11,490	1,500	12,990	11.5	11.5	11.1
42	LOGAN	13,350	790	14,140	5.6	6.4	6.3
43	LOVE	3,720	310	4,030	7.7	7.9	6.9
44	McCLAIN	10,560	830	11,390	7.3	7.4	7.0
45	McCURTAIN	13,800	1,670	15,470	10.8	11.6	10.4
46	McINTOSH	5,600	440	6,040	7.3	7.4	9.9
47	MAJOR	3,420	350	3,770	9.3	10.4	9.5
48	MARSHALL	3,970	380	4,350	8.7	8.9	8.4
49	MAYES	12,920	1,820	14,740	12.3	13.3	11.7
50	MURRAY	5,380	690	6,070	11.4	11.4	10.3
51	MUSKOGEE	30,150	3,025	33,175	9.1	9.2	9.5
52	NOBLE	5,020	410	5,430	7.6	7.7	8.4
53	NOWATA	3,780	550	4,330	12.7	12.6	12.6
54	OKFUSKEE	5,660	580	6,240	9.3	9.9	8.6
55	OKLAHOMA	306,500	22,575	329,075	6.9	6.8	6.2
56	OKMULGEE	15,575	1,850	17,425	10.6	11.0	10.6
57	OSAGE	16,425	1,275	17,700	7.2	7.3	9.1
58	OTTAWA	10,725	2,625	13,350	19.7	21.2	24.5
59	PAWNEE	7,460	950	8,410	11.3	11.5	9.0
60	PAYNE	32,025	1,850	33,875	5.5	5.8	5.2
61	PITTSBURG	16,950	2,250	19,200	11.7	12.2	12.7
62	PONTOTOC	16,300	1,360	17,660	7.7	8.0	7.4
63	POTTAWATOMIE	25,150	2,375	27,525	8.6	9.0	7.5
64	PUSHMATAHA	4,460	440	4,900	9.0	8.7	11.5
65	ROGER MILLS	1,790	230	2,020	11.4	11.2	15.3
66	ROGERS	22,670	2,930	25,600	11.4	11.4	10.1
67	SEMINOLE	10,190	1,650	11,840	13.9	13.7	12.6

LABOR FORCE DATA

MONTH: MARCH 1987

AREA	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	LABOR FORCE	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAR 87	FEB 87	MAR 86
68 SEQUOYAH	15,310	1,200	16,510	7.3	9.2	9.0
69 STEPHENS	16,780	2,920	19,700	14.8	13.7	9.3
70 TEXAS	8,740	520	9,260	5.6	6.1	5.6
71 TILLMAN	4,250	460	4,710	9.8	9.6	7.7
72 TULSA	238,800	23,125	261,925	8.8	9.1	7.8
73 WAGONER	19,610	2,020	21,630	9.3	8.9	7.2
74 WASHINGTON	23,000	1,690	24,690	6.8	7.5	7.0
75 WASHITA	5,940	590	6,530	9.0	8.8	8.4
76 WOODS	5,610	200	5,810	3.4	3.7	4.0
77 WOODWARD	8,910	1,130	10,040	11.3	11.7	12.1
OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	466,700	34,600	501,300	6.9	6.9	6.2
TULSA MSA	324,400	32,700	357,100	9.2	9.4	8.2

SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS

A. NORTHWEST	35600	2600	38,200	6.8
B. SOUTHWEST	49200	4200	53,400	7.9
C. NORTH CENTRAL	78400	6700	85,100	7.9
D. SOUTH CENTRAL	111100	10600	121,700	8.7
E. CENTRAL	363600	26500	390,100	6.8
F. TULSA	282100	27700	309,800	8.9
G. EAST CENTRAL	96500	9900	106,400	9.3
H. SOUTHERN	87800	9100	96,900	9.4
I. NORTHEAST	89700	11500	101,200	11.4
J. EASTERN	107700	11000	118,700	9.3
K. SOUTHEAST	66300	8400	74,700	11.2
L. CLEVELAND	67400	4900	72,300	6.8

OKLAHOMA CITY METROPOLITAN AREA

(Oklahoma, Canadian, Cleveland, Logan, McClain and Pottawatomie Counties)

The Oklahoma City Area Metropolitan Area added 1,300 new jobs to the employment total in March, according to the latest estimates. Still, the employment total was 3.8 percent below the the figure for last March. A 300 drop in unemployment helped stabilize the rate at 6.9 percent, identical with February's rate. This March was seventh-tenths of a percent above the March, 1986 unemployment rate.

Continued economic softness in the Oklahoma City Metro Area job market resulted in a 500 drop in the wage and salary totals since last month. This is contrary to the 3000-4000 average gain that normally occurs in the February-March period. Jobs added by service and finance-insurance-real estate were not of sufficient magnitude to offset reduced employment in trade, manufacturing, and transportation-public utilities. Over the year, nonagricultural payrolls continued well below the 1986 levels, netting an estimated loss of 19,400. All eight major industry divisions showed yearly declines, led by the 9,000 estimated drop in the trade industry.

Manufacturing production workers, currently estimated at 35,600, had weekly paychecks in March that averaged the same as February. Also, there has been virtually no change since last March. In the majority of cases, if wage rates have increased, then hours have been cut. Where hours have increased, hourly rates are usually down.

A seasonal increase of 2.9 percent in the number of average weekly benefit claims was estimated during March. The increase of 291 by persons formerly employed in service occupations was the biggest change over the month. Since last year, claims from those formerly employed by the goods-producing industries has dropped substantially. Service-producing industry claims have risen slightly in the same period.

At the present time, there appears to be an abundant labor force to fill most job requirements for most sectors of the business community. Whether or not increased jobs will be available, other than seasonal, will depend to a large extent in the next few weeks on consumer spending patterns as well as projected business and industrial employment needs.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	*Mar 1987p*	*Feb 1987r*	*Mar 1986r*	*Feb 87 Mar 87*	*Mar 86 Mar 87*
Total Labor Force	501,300	499,700	517,300	1,600	16 000
Unemployment	34,600	34,300	32,000	300	2,600
(Unadjusted)					
Unemployment Rate	6.9	6.9	6.2	xxx	xxx
Employment	466,700	465,400	485,300	1,300	-18,600

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Industry	WEEKLY EARNINGS			WEEKLY HOURS			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Mar 1987p	*Feb 1987r*	*Mar 1986r*	*Mar 1987p*	*Feb 1987r*	*Mar 1986r*	*Mar 1987p*	*Feb 1987r*	*Mar 1986r*
All Manufacturing	444.91	444.29	444.98	40.3	40.5	40.6	11.04	10.97	10.96
Durable Goods	464.44	468.29	468.46	39.9	40.3	40.7	11.64	11.62	11.51
Prim & Fab. Metal	397.81	390.28	383.36	43.1	42.7	40.1	9.23	9.14	9.56
Machinery	468.86	475.59	455.84	39.4	40.1	40.7	11.90	11.86	11.20
Nondurable Goods	391.52	381.30	381.24	41.3	41.0	40.3	9.48	9.30	9.46
Food and Kindred Prod.	325.97	323.64	333.68	40.9	43.5	41.4	7.97	7.44	8.06
Printing & Pub	397.06	394.72	386.69	38.7	38.1	37.8	10.26	10.36	10.23

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT*

Industry	Number In Thousands			Absolute Change From	
	Mar 1987p	Feb 1987r	Mar 1986r	Feb-87 Mar-87	Mar-86 Mar-87
Wage & Salary **	399.3	399.8	418.7	-0.5	-19.4
Manufacturing	48.5	48.8	50.8	-0.3	-2.3
Durable Goods	33.3	33.5	35.1	-0.2	-1.8
Primary & Fabricated Metals	4.9	4.9	5.1	0.0	-0.2
Fab Struc Metals Products	1.8	1.8	1.9	0.0	-0.1
Machinery	13.7	13.8	15.1	-0.1	-1.4
Mach. Except Electric	10.8	10.9	11.9	-0.1	-1.1
Elec. & Elec Equipment	2.9	2.9	3.2	0.0	-0.3
Transportation Equipment	9.8	9.8	9.9	0.0	-0.1
Nondurable Goods	15.2	15.3	15.7	-0.1	-0.5
Food and Kindred	5.2	5.2	5.4	0.0	-0.2
Printing and Publishing	4.3	4.4	4.6	-0.1	-0.3
Mining	11.8	11.8	14.4	0.0	-2.6
Construction	12.8	12.8	14.0	0.0	-1.2
Transp. & Public Utilities	20.0	20.1	21.0	-0.1	-1.0
Transportation	9.2	9.2	9.8	0.0	-0.6
Comm. & Public Utilities	10.8	10.9	11.2	-0.1	-0.4
Trade	96.1	97.1	105.1	-1.0	-9.0
Wholesale Trade	22.5	22.6	24.1	-0.1	-1.6
Retail Trade	73.6	74.5	81.0	-0.9	-7.4
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	26.0	25.7	26.7	0.3	-0.7
Banking	6.8	6.7	7.4	0.1	-0.6
Credit Agencies	4.2	4.2	4.4	0.0	-0.2
Insurance Carriers	5.0	5.0	5.1	0.0	-0.1
Services	86.0	85.4	86.3	0.6	-0.3
Health Services	24.7	24.7	24.5	0.0	0.2
Hospitals	11.4	11.4	11.2	0.0	0.2
Educational Services	4.7	4.8	4.8	-0.1	-0.1
Government	98.1	98.1	100.4	0.0	-2.3
Federal	30.1	30.2	31.2	-0.1	-1.1
State	33.3	33.1	33.6	0.2	-0.3
Local	34.7	34.8	35.6	-0.1	-0.9

INSURED UNEMPLOYED CHARACTERISTICS

Total	8,166	7,937	8,993	229	-827
Mining	485	539	820	-54	-335
Construction	1,160	1,183	1,589	-23	-429
Manufacturing	1,293	1,278	1,526	15	-233
Transportation Public Utilities	341	331	428	10	-87
Trade	1,829	1,857	1,744	-28	85
Fin. Ins. Real-Estate	426	433	315	-7	111
Services	2,224	1,933	2,244	291	-20
Government & all Other	408	383	327	25	81

TULSA METROPOLITAN AREA

(TULSA, CREEK, OSAGE, ROGERS AND WAGONER COUNTIES)

Tulsa Area employment totaled 324,400 in March, up 800 from the February revised figure and the same as the estimate of a year earlier. Unemployment also improved in March as the jobless total fell 1,000. The percent of the labor force without jobs improved over the month but was still a full percentage point above last year's rate.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment lost only 100 jobs during the February-March period. Three of the eight major industry groups recorded increased employment, with the largest advance seen is services, up 600 for the month. Three other industry divisions fell and two were unchanged. Over the year, nonfarm payrolls failed to keep pace with employment levels of a year ago, losing 800 over the period. Downside change was led by mining and manufacturing, while services, up 1,500 was the growth leader.

Factory production workers numbered 31,000 in Tulsa during March and they earned $427.58 in average weekly pay. This was $6.00 more than February and almost $9.00 higher than a year ago.

In both the long and short term estimation periods, durable goods workers improved their income while their counterparts producing nondurables were earning less. For durables, hourly pay and the workweek expanded while the opposite was true for nondurable workers.

A total of 8,471 individuals were receiving unemployment insurance benefits in the Tulsa Area during the week ended March 21, 1987. This is 104 higher than February and 79 above the March, 1986 level. Claimants formerly involved in the services industry increased 10.5 percent monthly and 16.8 percent since last year.

Seasonal activity and other employment will probably be affected by the general trend of Tulsa's economy. Job levels should remain steady during the next few weeks for most of the major industry divisions.Unemployment may be tempered somewhat by seasonal employment in recreational and tourist activities.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	*Mar 1987p*	*Feb 1987r*	*Mar 1986r*	*Feb 87 Mar 87*	*Mar 86 Mar 87*
Total Labor Force	**357,100**	**357,300**	**353,400**	**-200**	**3,700**
Unemployment	**32,700**	**33,700**	**29,000**	**-1,000**	**3,700**
(Unadjusted)					
Unemployment Rate	**9.2**	**9.4**	**8.2**	**xxx**	**xxx**
Employment	**324,400**	**323,600**	**324,400**	**800**	**0**

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

Industry	WEEKLY EARNINGS *Mar 1987p*	*Feb 1987r*	*Mar 1986r*	WEEKLY HOURS *Mar 1987p*	*Feb 1987r*	*Mar 1986r*	HOURLY EARNINGS *Mar 1987p*	*Feb 1987r*	*Mar 1986r*
All Manufacturing	**427.58**	**421.85**	**418.40**	**40.3**	**40.1**	**40.0**	**10.61**	**10.52**	**10.46**
Durable Goods	**447.29**	**441.57**	**432.68**	**40.7**	**40.4**	**40.1**	**10.99**	**10.93**	**10.79**
Prim & Fab. Metal	**399.84**	**386.63**	**389.64**	**42.0**	**41.0**	**40.8**	**9.52**	**9.43**	**9.55**
Machinery	**380.05**	**379.05**	**403.34**	**39.1**	**38.6**	**40.7**	**9.72**	**9.82**	**9.91**
Nondurable Goods	**340.49**	**342.13**	**353.33**	**38.3**	**39.1**	**39.7**	**8.89**	**8.75**	**8.90**
Printing & Pub	**409.38**	**428.67**	**420.23**	**39.1**	**41.1**	**43.1**	**10.47**	**10.43**	**9.75**

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT*

Industry	Number In Thousands			Absolute Change From	
	Mar 1987p	Feb 1987r	Mar 1986r	Feb-87 Mar-87	Mar-86 Mar-87
Wage & Salary**	298.9	299.0	299.7	-0.1	-0.8
Manufacturing	49.7	50.1	51.8	-0.4	-2.1
Durable Goods	38.6	39.0	40.6	-0.4	-2.0
Stone Clay & Glass Product	3.7	3.7	3.7	0.0	0.0
Primary & Fab. Metals	10.2	10.4	10.6	-0.2	-0.4
Primary Metal Ind	1.6	1.6	1.8	0.0	-0.2
Fab. Metal Products	8.6	8.8	8.8	-0.2	-0.2
Fab. Struct Metal Product	5.0	5.0	5.1	0.0	-0.1
Machinery	13.8	13.7	14.7	0.1	-0.9
Mach. Exc. Electric	10.5	10.4	11.3	0.1	-0.8
Const. & Related Machinery	4.4	4.3	4.6	0.1	-0.2
Elect. & Elect Equipment	3.3	3.3	3.4	0.0	-0.1
Transportation Equipment	7.7	8.0	8.3	-0.3	-0.6
Nondurable Goods	11.1	11.1	11.2	0.0	-0.1
Printing and Publishing	3.5	3.5	3.5	0.0	0.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.7	1.7	1.6	0.0	0.1
Mining	16.7	17.0	18.0	-0.3	-1.3
Construction	12.5	12.2	12.3	0.3	0.2
Transp. & Pub Utilities	22.6	22.6	22.3	0.0	0.3
Transportation	15.1	15.1	13.9	0.0	1.2
Communication and Electric, Gas	7.5	7.5	8.4	0.0	-0.9
Trade	72.6	72.4	71.9	0.2	0.7
Wholesale Trade	18.4	18.5	19.2	-0.1	-0.8
Retail Trade	54.2	53.9	52.7	0.3	1.5
Fin., Ins., Real Est.	17.3	17.3	17.4	0.0	-0.1
Banking	4.4	4.4	4.8	0.0	-0.4
Services	70.3	69.7	68.8	0.6	1.5
Health Services	21.2	21.0	20.3	0.2	0.9
Hospitals	11.6	11.5	10.9	0.1	0.7
Educational Services	5.7	5.7	5.5	0.0	0.2
Government	37.2	37.7	37.2	-0.5	0.0
Federal	5.0	5.0	4.9	0.0	0.1
State	5.7	6.5	6.0	-0.8	-0.3
Local	26.5	26.2	26.3	0.3	0.2

INSURED UNEMPLOYED CHARACTERISTICS

Total	8,471	8,367	8,392	104	79
Mining	519	572	650	-53	-131
Construction	1,473	1,601	1,553	-128	-80
Manufacturing	2,433	2,326	2,531	107	-98
Transportation Public Utilities	324	359	347	-35	-23
Trade	1,372	1,315	1,263	57	109
Fin. Ins. Real-Estate	359	335	342	24	17
Services	1,740	1,575	1,490	165	250
Government & all Other	251	284	216	-33	35

LAWTON MSA - COMANCHE COUNTY

Total unemployment in the Lawton MSA rose by 700 during the February-March estimation period. A drop of 100 in the number of jobless in the area contributed to a lower 5.3 percent unemployment rate as the labor force increased seasonally.

The construction industry added an estimated 100 positions in March, representing the total net change in the payroll series. Trade and services employment declines comprised 71 percent of the 1,400 drop in wage and salary jobs over the year.

Employment opportunities and the unemployment rate should remain fairly stable for the near term. Job totals could improve, especially in construction, agriculture, and the recreation industry.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Item	*Mar 1987p*	*Feb 1987r*	*Mar 1986r*	Absolute Change From *Feb 87 Mar 87*	Absolute Change From *Mar 86 Mar 87*
Total Labor Force*	**47,600**	**47,000**	**48,200**	**600**	**-600**
Unemployment	**2,500**	**2,600**	**2,400**	**-100**	**100**
Unemployment Rate	**5.3**	**5.5**	**5.0**	**xxx**	**xxx**
Employment	**45,100**	**44,400**	**45,800**	**700**	**-700**

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Nonfarm Wage and Salary**	**32,800**	**32,700**	**34,200**	**100**	**-1,400**
Manufacturing	**3,300**	**3,300**	**3,400**	**0**	**-100**
Durable Goods	**400**	**400**	**500**	**0**	**-100**
Nondurable Goods	**2,900**	**2,900**	**2,900**	**0**	**0**
Mining	**200**	**200**	**200**	**0**	**0**
Construction	**1,400**	**1,300**	**1,300**	**100**	**100**
Transp. & Public Utilities	**1,300**	**1,300**	**1,400**	**0**	**-100**
Wholesale and Retail Trade	**8,300**	**8,300**	**8,900**	**0**	**-600**
Wholesale Trade	**900**	**900**	**1,000**	**0**	**-100**
Retail Trade	**7,400**	**7,400**	**7,900**	**0**	**-500**
Finance-Ins.-Real Estate	**1,500**	**1,500**	**1,600**	**0**	**-100**
Services	**5,400**	**5,400**	**5,800**	**0**	**-400**
Government+	**11,400**	**11,400**	**11,600**	**0**	**-200**
Federal	**5,400**	**5,400**	**5,500**	**0**	**-100**
State	**1,300**	**1,300**	**1,300**	**0**	**0**
Local	**4,700**	**4,700**	**4,800**	**0**	**-100**

ENID MSA - GARFIELD COUNTY

Total unemployment was unchanged from February as the rate went from 8.8 to 8.7 percent as the employment and labor force rose by 300. Employment was estimated to have dropped 2,100 over the last year, while joblessness rose 200, resulting in a 1,900 decrease in the labor force in the Enid Area.

Nonfarm wage and salary jobs increased 200 in March due to job rises of 100 each in transportation-public utilities and retail trade.

All other areas reflected no changes over the month. Over the year, wage and salary employment was down 1,800 as small losses occurred in seven of the eight major industry divisions.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

Item	*Mar 1987p*	*Feb 1987r*	*Mar 1986r*	Absolute Change From *Feb 1987 Mar 1987*	Absolute Change From *Mar 1986 Mar 1987*
Total Labor Force*	29,800	29,500	31,700	300	-1,900
Unemployment	2,600	2,600	2,400	0	200
Unemployment Rate	8.7	8.8	7.6	xxx	xxx
Employment	27,200	26,900	29,300	300	-2,100

NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Nonfarm Wage and Salary**	21,500	21,300	23,300	200	-1,800
Manufacturing	1,500	1,500	1,700	0	-200
Durable Goods	700	700	900	0	-200
Nondurable Goods	800	800	800	0	0
Mining	1,200	1,200	1,500	0	-300
Construction	800	800	800	0	0
Transp. & Public Utilities	2,100	2,000	2,300	100	-200
Wholesale and Retail Trade	6,100	6,000	6,600	100	-500
Wholesale Trade	1,400	1,400	1,400	0	0
Retail Trade	4,700	4,600	5,200	100	-500
Finance-Ins.-Real Estate	1,000	1,000	1,200	0	-200
Services	5,100	5,100	5,400	0	-300
Government+	3,700	3,700	3,800	0	-100
Federal	400	400	400	0	0
State	1,000	1,000	1,100	0	-100
Local	2,300	2,300	2,300	0	0

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, Research Department, Room 310, Will Rogers Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. Phone (405) 557-7260.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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